

Amanda Hart request-777755-6bdfbb5f@whatdotheyknow.com

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team Caxton House 6-12 Tothill Street London SW1H 9NA

<u>freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gov.uk</u>

DWP Website

Our Ref: FOI2021/60792

10 October 2022

Dear Amanda Hart,

Thank you for your Freedom of Information (FoI) request received on 27 July. You wrote:

"From electronic material, letters and memos, etc, please kindly inform us how many people, excluding staff and contractors, have died in a jobcentre during the years 2019 and 2020.

Please kindly supply this information for Scotland and split the figures by year."

DWP Response

We have recently received advice for the ICO regarding the above request which you made on 27 July 2021.

In our original response and subsequent Internal Review Responses we relied on Section 14(1) of the FOI Act, deciding that your request was vexatious. However, in an earlier FOI Response we advised you to narrow your request and suggested you should consider asking for the information in a regional basis.

This information is incorrect, and I apologise for any confusion this caused. We take our responsibilities under the FOI Act very seriously and on this occasion, we have fallen short of the standards you should expect.

I can confirm that the department does not hold the information you have requested, and we have no documents held that detail any deaths in jobcentres in Scotland during the years 2019 to 2020.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact us quoting the reference number above.

Yours sincerely,

DWP Central Freedom of Information Team Department for Work and Pensions

Your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act

If you are not happy with this response you may request an internal review by e-mailing freedom-of-information-request@dwp.gov.uk or by writing to: DWP Central Fol Team, Caxton House, 6-12 Tothill Street, London, SW1H 9NA.

Any review request should be submitted within two months of the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office for a decision. Generally, the Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted our own complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: The Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Website: ICO Contact Information or telephone 0303 123 1113.